IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the above compound of formula (1), the examples of the side chains of the branched alkylene or alkenylene group of X include a C1-C10 alkyl group. Examples of the alkyl side chain groups include a methyl group, an ethyl group, a propyl group, an isopropyl group, a butyl group, an isobutyl group, a sec-butyl group, a tert-butyl group, a pentyl group, an isopentyl group, a neopentyl group, a tert-pentyl group, a hexyl group, an isohexyl group, a heptyl group, an octyl group, a nonyl group, and a decyl group. Of these, a decyl group is particularly preferred. The linear alkylene group or alkenylene group, which refers to an alkene structure having at least one carbon-carbon double bond, is preferably substituted at different positions of the side chain. Of these Xs, a linear C10-C28 alkylene group is preferred, with a linear C10-C18 alkylene group being more preferred. Meanwhile, as to R^1, R^2, and R^3, each of which represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, it is preferred when at least one of the three is a methyl group.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The compound of formula (1) of the present invention can be prepared, for example, in accordance with the following reaction process A or B.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Specifically, the invention compound of formula 1(1) can be obtained by reacting cyclohexenone (2) or methyl-substituted-2-cyclohexene-1-one (3) with a benzenesulfinic acid

salt in the presence of an acid to obtain compound (4), reacting the resulting compound (4) with ethylene glycol to obtain its ketal derivative (5), reacting the resulting derivative (5) with a ω-halogenoalkanol or ω-halo genoalkenol to obtain compound (6), followed by subjecting compound (6) to an acid treatment to eliminate the protective group.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

At present, the mechanism of remarkable prolongation of the survival time of transgenic mice by administration of compound of formula (1) is unknown. Results of experiments conducted in the present invention indicate that the compound of formula (1) is useful for preventing and curing disorders caused by expression of a SOD mutant gene. As shown in Table 1, compound (1) exhibits excellent.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, last line, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in Table 1, the compound of formula (1) exhibits excellent neurite-extension effect on neurons originating from the cerebral hemisphere of rat fetus. In particular, Compound Nos. 9, 10, 20, 23, and 24 exhibit remarkably excellent neurite-extension effect as compared with bFGF.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Briefly, the compound of formula (1) has an inhibitory effect on disorders caused by mutation in an SOD gene and exhibits a neurotrophic factor effect such as acceleration of neurite-extension by acting directly on neurons. Thus, the compound of formula (1) is useful

for preventing and curing disorders caused by mutation in an SOD gene or neurodegenerative diseases.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~Compound~~ The compound of formula (1) may be administered through either an oral route or a parenteral route, such as intramuscular injection, subcutaneous injection, intravenous injection, or administration by use of a suppository.